United Nations S/2000/347

Security Council

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26 April 2000

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Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 14 of resolution 1284 (1999)

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999) in which the Council requested me to report every four months on compliance by Iraq with its obligations regarding the repatriation or return of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals or their remains as well as to appoint a high-level coordinator for that matter.

2. After conducting consultations with the parties concerned, on 14 February 2000, I appointed Ambassador Yuli Vorontsov of the Russian Federation as the high-level Coordinator, pursuant to paragraph 14 of resolution 1284 (1999) (S/2000/112 and 113 of 14 February 2000).

II. Background

3. It will be recalled that in December 1998, the Permanent Representative of Bahrain, Ambassador Jassim Mohammad Buallay, presented to the Security Council a proposal regarding Kuwaiti prisoners of war, properties and archives. In its informal note, Bahrain, at that time a member of the Security Council, stressed the need for an assessment of the situation of Kuwaiti prisoners of war, properties and archives in view of the fact that those questions had become an integral part of the Iraqi issue, together, and on the same footing, with disarmament and the humanitarian programme as stipulated in the relevant Security Council resolutions.

4. Following discussions in the Council and pursuant to the note by the President of the Security Council (S/1999/100) of 30 January 1999, a panel on prisoners of war and Kuwaiti property was established under the Chairmanship of Ambassador Celso L. N. Amorim of Brazil.

5. The Amorim panel should be commended for making a valuable inventory of all the relevant Security Council resolutions. According to the report submitted by that panel in March 1999, the particular provisions of Security Council resolutions most relevant to the mandate of the panel on prisoners of war and Kuwaiti property are contained in resolutions 686 (1991), 687 (1991) and 706 (1991).

6. In summary, pursuant to those resolutions, Iraq was required:

(a) To release immediately, under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Red Cross Societies or Red Crescent Societies, all Kuwaiti and third-State nationals and return the remains of any deceased Kuwaiti and third-State nationals detained by Iraq;

(b) To arrange for immediate access to and release of all prisoners of war under the auspices of ICRC and return the remains of any deceased personnel of the forces of Kuwait and the Member States of the coalition;

(c) To extend all necessary cooperation to ICRC by providing lists of such persons, facilitating the access of ICRC to all such persons, wherever located or detained, and facilitating the search by ICRC for those Kuwaitis and third-State nationals still unaccounted for.

7. The Amorim panel reaffirmed the humanitarian character of the prisoner-of-war and missing-persons issue. The fate of the persons unaccounted for and the

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suffering of their respective families should not be influenced by political considerations. The panel recommended that any procedure to be established in that regard in the future should take into account "(a) that the purpose is to ensure that the Council be informed of the issue (not to trigger a political discussion or to affect the humanitarian treatment of the issue); (b) it should be a motivational factor for cooperation and a positive inducement for progress and understanding (therefore, progress between Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in this humanitarian issue could play an important role in the process of confidence-building and lead to an improvement in the overall political atmosphere); and (c) the need not to impinge on the work of the ICRC or to undermine the functioning of the Tripartite Commission.[1] The procedure should, therefore, be discreet, and have as its aim to foster dialogue and confidence-building and advance the ultimate objective of informing the families of the fate of the missing persons. Success of this exercise is directly dependent on the cooperation of all parties involved." (Paras. 45, 46 and 50 of the panel's final report)

8. The adoption of resolution 1284 (1999) has effectively closed the gap in resolutions 686 (1991) and 687 (1991) which resulted in the lack of specific reference to a mechanism for accountability.

9. During the open meeting of the Security Council on 24 March 2000, members of the Council paid due attention to the humanitarian problem of the Kuwaiti missing persons. In their statements, it was pointed out that "the resolution of the problem of the Kuwaiti missing persons would doubtless contribute to building confidence among the peoples of the region and would help make steady progress in adopting a global approach to the overall situation" (Tunisia); that "it is important for the Government of Iraq to resume cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Tripartite Commission and the Technical Subcommittee, as reiterated by the Council in section B of resolution 1284 (1999)" (Namibia); that "it sympathizes with the families of the more than 600 Kuwaiti missing persons and other third-country nationals, who need to be accounted for and more aggressively sought and supports the efforts of the recently appointed Coordinator tasked with resolving this issue on which there is complete consensus in the Council. Iraq is therefore called to fulfil its obligation in this regard, along with all of its other international obligations, to continue its participation in the Tripartite Commission and the Technical Subcommittee and to cooperate in resolving these issues once and for all, in the interest of humanitarianism and for the sake of restoring normalcy to the region" (Malaysia); that "the Council should not discuss humanitarian matters concerning Iraq without reminding the Government of Iraq of its commitment to facilitate the repatriation of all Kuwaiti and third country nationals, as reiterated in operative paragraph 13 of resolution 1284 (1999)" (Netherlands); and that "the often forgotten dimension of the humanitarian situation is the important question of prisoners of war and persons unaccounted for in Iraq. Over the last decade, the matter has reached a serious point and needs urgent resolution to ameliorate the untold suffering of the large number of affected families, not only in Kuwait but also in a number of other countries" (Bangladesh).[2]

III. Plan of work

10. On 27 March, I discussed with my high-level Coordinator his mandate and programme of work. At the initial stage of his efforts, he would be tasked to attempt to determine the factual up-to-date situation with the repatriation of Kuwaiti and third-country nationals referred to in paragraph 30 of resolution 687 (1991) and establish working contacts with the whole range of parties that have dealt with the issue.

11. Recommendations of the Amorim panel would be fully taken into account in the course of implementation of the Coordinator's mandate. Given the sensitivity of the matter, rather than engaging in investigations, the Coordinator should encourage and coordinate efforts of all parties concerned.

12. The ultimate goal of the Coordinator is to assist in closing the largest possible number of files. The lack of information on the fate of those missing nourishes understandable uncertainties and frustration.

IV. High-level Coordinator's activities

13. Upon his arrival in New York, the Coordinator held numerous meetings on 27-31 March 2000, with various representatives of parties concerned with his mandated activities. He met with the outgoing and incoming Presidents of the Security Council (Bangladesh and Canada, respectively), representatives

of the five permanent members of the Security Council (China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and the United States), the Permanent Representatives of Kuwait, Colombia (in his capacity of Coordinator of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)), the Netherlands (in his capacity of President of the 661 Sanction Committee) and Egypt. He also held discussions with the Permanent Observers of the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). In pursuance of his mandate, the Coordinator contacted the head of the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the organization which is the Chairman of the Tripartite Commission.

14. His presence in New York coincided with the visit to the United Nations Headquarters of Sheikh Salem Sabah Al-Salem Al Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of Kuwait, who is also the Chairman of the Kuwaiti Prisoners of War and Missing Persons Committee. The Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister was accompanied by the members of the Tripartite Commission (except Iraq). My meeting with them on 28 March 2000 presented a good opportunity to introduce my high-level Coordinator to the Tripartite Commission. Ambassador Vorontsov met separately with Sheikh Salem Sabah Al-Salem Al Sabah and the members of the Commission on several occasions. I have emphasized to the members of the Tripartite Commission that an effective relationship between them and the Coordinator was needed but that Ambassador Vorontsov should be able to work independently and should not be regarded as a part of the Commission.

15. During his meeting with the Permanent Representative of Colombia, the Coordinator had an opportunity to discuss the issue of the Kuwaiti prisoners of war and missing persons with the representative of the organizers of the thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena. It will be recalled that subsequently, in the final document of that Conference, the following provision was included:

> "We stress the need to resolve expeditiously the fate of all prisoners/detainees and missing persons of Kuwait and third country nationals by means of serious and sincere cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross to reach a solution of this particular issue and to return the properties of the Government of Kuwait including official documents removed from national archives seized by Iraq. In this respect, we recall the appointment of Mr. Yuli Vorontsov by the Secretary-General as the High-level Coordinator to follow-up the release of Kuwaiti and third country prisoners/detainees and the return of Kuwaiti property seized by Iraq."

16. From 3 to 11 April, the Coordinator visited the headquarters of ICRC in Geneva, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. In Geneva, he had productive meetings with representatives of ICRC, including the Vice-President of ICRC, and with Prince Torki Ben Mohammed Ben Saud Al-Kabir, the Head of the Committee for Saudi Prisoners of War in Iraq. He also used his visit there to meet with Ambassador Amorim. It was recalled that his panel had been tasked to consider information from a variety of sources and had received, informally, a non-paper by Iraq concerning the question of prisoners of war. In that paper, dated 25 January 1999, the Iraqi authorities drew the attention of the panel to the suffering of the families of the Iraqi missing persons in Kuwait whose number was set at more than 1,100.

17. ICRC representatives remain available for contacts with all parties and, in this regard, have held consultations quite recently with the Iraqi authorities in Baghdad. ICRC, being neutral and impartial, bases its actions on documented cases and does not engage in investigation. ICRC has consistently pursued its efforts to fulfil its mandate to gather information on 605 Kuwaiti persons unaccounted for and thus to relieve the anguish of families left with no news of their loved ones. The fact that progress is slow does not in any way affect ICRC's humanitarian commitment. In line with its customary working procedures and on the basis of a common understanding reached between all the parties, the ICRC will continue its efforts and proceed in a confidential manner conducive to fostering a climate of confidence and a spirit of dialogue.

18. In all contacts of the Coordinator special emphasis is placed on the fact that the work of ascertaining the fate of missing military personnel and civilians has been assigned to the Tripartite Commission, created by the document entitled "Plan of Operation Designed to Ascertain the Whereabouts of the Fate of the Military and Civilians Missing", known as the Riyadh Agreement. However, at the end of 1998, Iraq took the decision not to participate in the work of the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Sub-Committee.[3]

19. The Government of Iraq argues that there are no Kuwaiti prisoners of war or detainees in its territory. From the Iraqi point of view, the issue is one of missing persons, not prisoners of war. Iraq has responded to 126 cases, based on a "recollection process" of Iraqi officers who recalled that 121 of those persons had been arrested, interrogated and sent to detention centres in the southern Governorates. The subsequent unrest in the south of the country, in the beginning of 1991, led to the alleged escape of the detainees in question. Iraq claims that all documents that could have provided a basis for the search were destroyed, burned or lost in the outbreak of riots in its southern Governorates.

20. It will be recalled that in resolution 1284 (1999) the Security Council reiterated the obligation of Iraq, in furtherance of its commitment to facilitate the repatriation of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals referred to in paragraph 30 of resolution 687 (1991), to extend all necessary cooperation to ICRC, and called upon the Government of Iraq to resume cooperation with the Tripartite Commission and Technical Sub-Committee established to facilitate work on that issue. In view of this requirement and in accordance with his mandate, the Coordinator has already attempted to contact the Iraqi representatives to assure their cooperation. He will continue his efforts to establish dialogue with the Iraqi side.

21. In Kuwait, the Coordinator was received by Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Sheikh Salem Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Chairman of the Kuwaiti Prisoners of War and Missing Persons Committee. He also had an emotional meeting with some 100 families of the missing people and was informed of their grievances. The Kuwaiti authorities extended their fullest cooperation to Ambassador Vorontsov, who took special note of Kuwait's commitment to work for a peaceful arrangement for the closure of the files on missing persons, without vengeance. The Kuwaiti authorities assured him that they remained determined to continue supporting the work of the Tripartite Commission and Technical Sub-Committee, having a strong desire to help those bodies achieve their specified goals, using all available means to foster a spirit of cooperation and trust between the parties concerned.

22. In Jeddah, the Coordinator had a conversation with Prince Faisal Al-Saud, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, and held discussions with Mr. Azeddine Laraki, Secretary-General of OIC. In Cairo, he met with Dr. Ismat Abdel-Meguid, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, and with Ambassador Fikki, the Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt.

23. The visits to the Headquarters of OIC and LAS were important in view of the long-lasting involvement of those two international organizations in the issue of prisoners of war and missing persons and of the lines of communication they maintain with Iraq. The Coordinator invited OIC and LAS to use their influence with parties concerned in order to resolve, as soon as possible, the issue of missing persons. All interlocutors of Ambassador Vorontsov in Cairo and Jeddah assured him of their support and cooperation and found it useful to expand their contacts with the Coordinator.

24. Attention was also drawn to a number of resolutions and appeals issued by OIC concerning Kuwaiti prisoners of war and missing persons. OIC stands prepared to continue its efforts and, if requested, will designate a special representative to deal with the files.

25. The LAS representatives informed the Coordinator that the League had strongly recommended that Iraq cooperate with the strictly humanitarian mission of Ambassador Vorontsov, the success of which would serve the interests of both the Kuwaiti and Iraqi people. High Saudi and Egyptian officials also promised their assistance in arranging for the Coordinator's visit to Baghdad for discussions with Iraqi authorities. By the time of this writing, Iraq has not yet responded to these efforts.

26. The Coordinator learned from his conversation at LAS headquarters that on more than one occasion, the Iraqi President had been advised that progress in solving the issue of Kuwaiti missing persons would improve Iraq's stance in the world and, in particular, ameliorate the political climate among the Arab States. In March 1999, the Ministerial Committee of LAS adopted a resolution establishing a mechanism for dealing with the problem of missing persons.

27. Summarizing the discussions held by Ambassador Vorontsov in New York, Geneva and the region, it should be pointed out that in previous years the activities of the Tripartite Commission and its

Technical Sub-Committee resulted in the repatriation, with Iraq's participation, of some 6,000 Kuwaiti prisoners of war through ICRC and other channels. But a significant number of people still remain unaccounted for (see the annex). The Kuwaiti authorities have submitted individual files, well-documented by eyewitness testimony and official Iraqi arrest records, on missing Kuwaiti and third-country nationals. The Coordinator had an opportunity to examine some of those files while in Kuwait.

28. Iraq has provided no information since 1998. However, Iraq submitted to ICRC requests to ascertain the fate and whereabouts of more than 1,000 Iraqis not accounted for after the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. In that connection, the Kuwaiti authorities informed the Coordinator that they had no Iraqi prisoners of war on their territory except several common criminals of Iraqi origin imprisoned in Kuwait. The Kuwaiti authorities are prepared to allow Iraqi representatives, accompanied by ICRC and in the presence of observers from international organizations, to conduct search and identification operations on the territory of Kuwait.

V. Observations

29. The fate of Kuwaiti and other nationals unaccounted for — whether prisoners of war, civilian detainees or missing persons — is a humanitarian tragedy which needs highest attention of all parties involved and concerned. After nine years of uncertainty, the bereaved family members continue to seek closure of the files, not knowing the fate of their loved ones; the women concerned do not know whether they are wives or widows. It is important to bring about concrete results — to repatriate to Kuwait the missing persons who are still alive or to recover the mortal remains for return to the families.

30. On the basis of the mandate given by the Geneva Conventions, ICRC is continuing its efforts to gather information on Kuwaiti prisoners of war and missing persons. It is my conviction that the ICRC's independent dialogue with Iraqi authorities needs to proceed uninterrupted. ICRC's principle of independence and confidentiality should be respected.

31. The numerous presentations made in New York and elsewhere on the work of the Tripartite Commission demonstrated that its efforts should continue, especially with the resumed participation of Iraq. The Commission is the most appropriate mechanism to deal with the issue of persons unaccounted for. The Coordinator would work in close contact with the Commission.

32. I call on the leadership of NAM, LAS and OIC to continue, through all available channels, their efforts aimed at the speediest resolution of the humanitarian issue of missing persons. Iraq's response to the issue of missing persons, as a purely humanitarian one, would become a yardstick by which the international community would measure Iraq's position on other outstanding problems. The recent releases of the Iraqi and Iranian prisoners of war after more than a decade of extensive search and negotiations should be noted. This fact gives a beam of hope that similar developments may take place in regard to those missing in the aftermath of the Gulf War.

33. The Coordinator's mandate is only a part of resolution 1284 (1999), and he would work, for the sake of facilitating the humanitarian process of ascertaining the fate of the missing persons, as an independent entity. Understanding, reciprocity and display of good will are of critical importance. His success requires the full cooperation and support of all parties concerned and of the international community in general. The establishment of a productive dialogue between the Coordinator and the Iraqi authorities would be a welcome development.

34. Many of the interlocutors of the Coordinator expressed the hope that the issue of the prisoners of war and missing persons would be addressed in different international forums. The Coordinator would continue his role in motivating the parties to cooperate in the framework of different existing mechanisms, taking into account the fact that the resolution of humanitarian issues could not wait for political movement on other outstanding matters. It is hoped that Ambassador Vorontsov, who has just begun his efforts, will be able to achieve positive results.

Notes

[1] After the global repatriation of prisoners of war, civilian internees and civilians and with a view to ascertaining the fate of missing military personnel and civilians, a plan was signed by the representatives of France, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom and the United States of America in Riyadh on 12 April 1991,

which brought the Tripartite Commission into being. From its inception, the Commission has been composed of the above-mentioned countries.

[2] See S/PV.4120, of 24 March 2000.

[3] On 8 December 1994, the members of the Tripartite Commission set up the Technical Sub-Committee to work on practical and technical aspects, its objective being to: (a) expedite the search for all persons for whom inquiry files had been opened; (b) facilitate the exchange of all requisite information relating to individual inquiry files; (c) decide on and implement any follow-up measures that might be required as a result of the investigations; and (d) foster a climate of confidence.

Annex

Persons unaccounted for

The date of 31 July 1996 was set as the deadline for the parties to submit official request forms, or individual files of persons unaccounted for, to be treated within the framework of the Tripartite Commission. All official request forms received by ICRC by 13 June 1996 were to be dealt with in the first stage. All those received between 14 June 1996 and 31 July 1996 were to be dealt with in the second stage.

A number of files pertaining to persons unaccounted for were transmitted to ICRC by Iraq after 31 July 1996. They are, therefore, being processed outside the framework of the Tripartite Commission, on the basis of the ICRC's mandate concerning missing persons.

The current figures for cases handled within the process of the Tripartite Commission and the Technical Sub-Committee are as follows:

(a) First-stage files of persons unaccounted for:

598 submitted by Kuwait (including seven files for Saudi nationals);

17 submitted by Saudi Arabia;

102 submitted by Iraq.

(b) Second-stage files of persons unaccounted for:

10 submitted by Kuwait;

687 submitted by Iraq, of which 446 have been transmitted by ICRC to one of the investigating parties. The remaining 241 will be forwarded by ICRC as soon as the Iraqi authorities are in a position to supplement the information given on the files.

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Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 14 of resolution 1284 (1999)

Corrigendum

Paragraph 22, first sentence

For Prince Faisal Al-Saud *read* His Royal Highness Prince Saud Al-Faisal bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud

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Security Council

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Letter dated 25 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have been instructed by my Government to forward a copy of the letter from Dr. Kosta Mihajlovic, Head of the Yugoslav delegation to the negotiations of the Peace Implementation Council working group on succession issues of the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addressed to the Negotiations Mediator, Sir Arthur Watts (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

00-40610 (E) 270400

Annex to the letter dated 25 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Belgrade, 17 April 2000

I have been informed that at the meeting of the Peace Implementation Council held at Sarajevo on 4 April 2000, discussion of the continuation of work on succession issues was avoided. On the basis of our recent correspondence, it appears that four newly independent republics are interested in continuing negotiations, which they have communicated in writing. You are aware of the fact that the Yugoslav side has reiterated, and wishes to do it again on this occasion, that it is willing to continue the negotiations, and that it gave approval in principle to your latest proposal more than a year ago. I am aware that you have addressed the High Representative both in writing and directly with a request that a long-standing standstill be overcome.

Despite the fact that all involved are interested in negotiations, the Peace Implementation Council has demonstrated a surprising lack of interest. This is as unusual as it is unexpected. By accepting the role of mediator, the Council has undertaken an obligation to facilitate and speed up the negotiations. But the Council has become, on the contrary, a factor which has been blocking the negotiations for more than a year without any explanation, Thus, it has taken upon itself prerogatives that it is not entitled to per se, nor are they established by the agreement. The only rational explanation for such conduct is that succession issues have assumed a political character, with all its implications at the current juncture of international relations.

Since I am presenting in this letter my own personal views concerning the standstill of the negotiations, I cannot advise you about the current position of the Yugoslav Government on this matter. But I am certain that the Yugoslav Government insists on the continuation of the negotiations on the basis of your last proposal. At the same time, I do not know what its reaction could be to the manifest lack of interest of the Peace Implementation Council.

(*Signed*) Kosta **Mihailović**

Sir Arthur Watts
Special Negotiator for Succession Issues
Brussels

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Security Council

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Letter dated 25 April 2000 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you and, through you, the members of the Security Council of the names of the international observers nominated by me pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1192 (1998) to attend the trial of the two persons charged with the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 before the Scottish Court sitting in the Netherlands:

Mrs. Hairat A. Balogun (Organization of African Unity and the Non-Aligned Movement)

Mr. M. H. Beerenboom (European Commission)

Dr. Nabil Elaraby (League of Arab States)

Dr. Hans Koechler and Mr. Robert W. Thabit (International Progress Organization)

All of the above-named observers represent entities that have demonstrated a long-standing interest in the matter of Pan Am flight 103.

I may decide to nominate additional international observers in the future, representing other entities with a long-standing interest in this matter, and will inform the Council accordingly.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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Security Council

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Letter dated 26 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Democratic Republic of the Congo requests the Security Council to establish a group of independent experts to investigate the illegal exploitation of the natural resources and other forms of wealth in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in violation of the country's national sovereignty, in accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolution 1291 (2000) of 24 February 2000, which sets out the mandate of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC).

In paragraph 17 of resolution 1291 (2000), the Council expressed its serious concern at reports of the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including in violation of the sovereignty of that country, called for an end to such activities, expressed its intention to consider the matter further and requested the Secretary-General to report to it within 90 days on ways to achieve that goal.

My Government, which calls upon the Security Council to vigorously condemn the aggression being perpetrated against the Democratic Republic of the Congo by the coalition forces of Burundi, Uganda and Rwanda, would be grateful if the Council would take all useful and necessary measures to put an end to these illegal activities, which are stoking this war of aggression.

My Government wishes to express its agreement with the proposal by the Secretary-General to establish a group of independent experts, as set out in his letter of 18 April 2000 to the President of the Security Council (S/2000/334).

My Government would be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) André Mwamba **Kapanga**
Ambassador

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Security Council

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Identical letters dated 25 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 24 April 2000 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the continuing blatant aggression against Iraq in the form of attacks by United States and British aircraft, which since December 1998 have resulted in the deaths of 295 Iraqi civilians and injury to 860 others, as well as the destruction of numerous civilian installations in Iraq, and Iraq's reassertion of its inalienable right to defend the sanctity of its territory and to seek compensation for the damage caused by that aggression.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 25 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that United States and British military aircraft, including F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, F-18s, Tornadoes and electronic surveillance aircraft, are continuing their blatant and unjustifiable violations of Iraqi airspace, taking off from their bases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey.

From December 1998 to 20 April 2000, this campaign of aggression has resulted in the deaths of 295 Iraqi civilians and injury to 860 others. I should also like to inform you that the aircraft in question, in their attacks, use internationally banned weapons containing depleted uranium.

The allegations by the United States that Iraq's air defence weapons systems are attacked only in response to defensive fire against their aircraft constitute brazen effrontery; moreover, they are unfounded, in view of the fact that their aviators are engaged in bombing Iraqi civilian installations while enforcing aerial exclusion zones over both northern and southern Iraq without any authorization. This is unilateral, unlawful, illegitimate action that constitutes a monstrous aggression against Iraq and a flagrant violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

These acts of aggression represent the continuation of a policy of hostility against Iraq that is being consistently pursued by the United States of America and the United Kingdom and is aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. By the most elementary standards of international intercourse, this policy, which has been confirmed by United States and British officials, is a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the common custom of nations. All of the above make it clear that the use of force or the threat of force against the territorial integrity and independence of any State is illegitimate.

The logistical support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the United States and United Kingdom makes them full accomplices in the aggression against Iraq, and they must share international responsibility for these acts.

The Government of Iraq will require the Governments of these States to bear full international responsibility for their criminal acts of aggression and the resulting damage and injury. It reserves its full and inalienable right, guaranteed by the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and the common custom of nations, to take all necessary measures to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq and the safety and security of its people, as well as its right to seek compensation for the human, moral and material damage inflicted upon it by these acts of aggression, in accordance with the principle of international liability.

(Signed) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq

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Letter dated 26 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my letter of 17 April 2000 (S/2000/325), I informed you that the Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK) had arbitrarily detained 43 Serbs in Kosovska Mitrovica, Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, 37 of whom were on hunger strike, protesting against the endless postponement of their cases. They are resolved to continue the strike until all their requests are fulfilled.

A doctors' concilium has examined the strikers and established that the condition of four of them has deteriorated. It will continue to deteriorate if the strike is continued, and the hardest hit are those suffering from chronic diseases. Turning a deaf ear by KFOR and UNMIK to the requests of detained Serbs is not only a blatant violation of basic human rights and a breach of judicial procedure, but can, in the circumstances, result in very serious consequences, including the death of the detainees.

Bringing this unlawful act of the international presences in the Serbian province to your attention, I call on you to use your influence to put an end to the plight of Serbs detained arbitrarily in Kosovska Mitrovica, the last refuge of the Serbian people expelled from their own land.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

00-40824 (E) 280400

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Letter dated 27 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 26 April 2000 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the military aggression committed by Turkish forces against northern Iraq on 1, 9 and 10 April 2000, requesting you to do your utmost to urge the Turkish Government to comply with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law by withdrawing its forces from northern Iraq forthwith.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-40886 (E) 010500 010500

Annex to the letter dated 27 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to the letter of 10 April 2000 addressed to you by the Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, I have the honour to direct your attention to the fact that on 1, 9 and 10 April 2000, Turkish armed forces committed a fresh military aggression against northern Iraq, along three different axes, as follows:

- A military force consisting of an estimated 2,000 armed troops entered the Jabal Haftin region and the surrounding areas on 1 April 2000;
- A military force consisting of an estimated 500 armed troops entered via the Çukurca-Kani Masi corridor on 9 April 2000;
- A military force consisting of an estimated 500 armed troops entered via the Kirkeh area, south-east of Bikufah, on 10 April 2000 and inspected the area.

This aggression has resulted in physical and mental harm and damage to the property of Iraqi citizens among our Kurdish people in that area, to say nothing of the damage done to public property.

I hope the United Nations will assume its responsibilities under its Charter by acting to prevent more of the threats and aggression to which my country is being subjected. I should like to ask you to do your utmost to urge the Turkish Government to comply with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law by withdrawing its forces from northern Iraq forthwith.

(*Signed*) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq

United Nations S/2000/354

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2000
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 26 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit herewith a letter dated 25 April 2000 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning armed acts of aggression carried out by United States naval forces inside Iraqi territorial waters, calling for a halt to these acts of aggression and affirming that Iraq reserves the right to react appropriately in the event of such actions in the future.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-40892 (E) 280400 010500

Annex to the identical letters dated 26 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I wish to inform you that at 0230 hours on 18 April 2000 three United States military boats carrying 10 armed individuals intercepted the vessel Fu'ad 2 as it was sailing in the Khawr Abdullah channel in a seaward direction at buoy No. 9 inside Iraqi territorial waters approximately 25 kilometres north-west of Al-Bakr port and 7 kilometres off the Iraqi coast. The vessel was seized and taken to an unknown destination. The vessel is Belizean-registered and has a 10-member crew, all of them Iraqis. It had entered Khawr al-Zubayr port on 25 March 2000 and left it on 17 April 2000.

The United States authorities' entry into Iraqi territorial waters and the forcible seizure of this vessel inside those waters is a flagrant violation of the integrity of our territorial waters and an armed act of aggression against the sovereignty of Iraq. We protest against these acts of aggression and request you to intervene to prevent those authorities from entering Iraqi territorial waters in the future. We also reserve our right to react appropriately in the event of such actions in the future.

(Signed) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq

United Nations S/2000/355

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2000
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 27 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 26 April 2000 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning an act of armed aggression undertaken by Kuwaiti naval patrol boats against a fishing boat in Iraq's territorial waters on 16 April 2000, and Iraq's reaffirmation of its right to take the necessary measures to defend the sanctity of its waters and territory and to seek compensation for the material and moral damage it has sustained as a result of these acts of aggression.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-40898 (E) 280400 010500

Annex to the identical letters dated 27 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that at 1900 hours on 16 April 2000, two Kuwaiti naval patrol boats, each carrying a crew of four armed military personnel, entered Iraq's territorial waters, intercepted an Iraqi fishing launch named *Al-Buwiyat* and assaulted the members of the crew (consisting of 11 Iraqi citizens) by cursing, reviling and striking them and confiscating their fishermen's identity cards and their military service booklets. The bodies of several of the crewmen bear the marks of knife cuts.

These actions by the Kuwaiti authorities, entering Iraq's territorial waters and assaulting Iraqi crew members in those waters, constitute a flagrant violation of the sanctity and sovereignty of Iraq and an act of armed aggression constituting, by the most elementary standards of international intercourse, a blatant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and the common custom of nations, all of which clearly state that the use or threat of force against the integrity and independence of any State is inadmissible. In protesting against these acts of aggression on the part of the Kuwaiti authorities, we request that you intervene with the authorities in question with a view to bringing a halt to their incursions into Iraq's territorial waters and committing such acts of intimidation in future. The Government of the Republic of Iraq reserves the full and inalienable right, guaranteed by the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and the common custom of nations, to take the necessary measures to defend its sovereignty and the sanctity of its territory and territorial waters, and to seek compensation for the moral and material damage it has sustained as a result of these acts of aggression, in accordance with the principle of international liability.

(*Signed*) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq

United Nations S/2000/356

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 27 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a press release issued on 27 April 2000 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Fesseha A. **Tessema**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

00-40879 (E) 280400

Annex to the letter dated 27 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Press release by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

It is to be recalled that the proximity talks for resolving the Ethio-Eritrean crisis which were arranged for 25 March 2000 by the current Chairman of OAU were cancelled at the last minute because Eritrea failed to confirm its participation.

Ethiopia has now received another invitation to participate in rescheduled proximity talks, to take place in Algiers starting on 29 April 2000.

Ethiopia has always been committed to the OAU peace process.

It is in this spirit that it has decided to take part in the rescheduled proximity talks now planned to start on 29 April 2000. The Ethiopian delegation to the proximity talks will be led by Foreign Minister Seyoum.

United Nations S/2000/357

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 27 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am writing to inform that on 19 April 2000 the Serbs of Kosovo Polje, Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, rejected the invitation extended to them a day before by the representatives of the United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK) to participate in joint interim administrative structures. They made their acceptance of the invitation contingent on the ending by the Kosovo Force (KFOR) and UNMIK of the chaos and lawlessness that prevail in the area and on the creation of conditions for normal life.

In their letter to UNMIK and KFOR, the Serbs write that 11 Serbs have been killed in their municipality since the arrival of the international presences and that 7 have been kidnapped and scores wounded, while many of them are experiencing daily pressures. In Kosovo Polje itself over 100 Serbian houses have been looted and burned and 150 Serbian apartments illegally moved into by ethnic Albanians. In the last nine months, 6,000 Serbs and 4,000 Roma have been expelled from Kosovo Polje and the surrounding area, while the villages of Dobri Dub, Velika Slatina, Ariljaca, Gornje i Donje Dobrevo, Vragoloja and Nakarade have been ethnically cleansed and the property of their Serbian residents looted, burned or otherwise destroyed. The Orthodox church in the village of Pomazatin was dynamited and damaged. Four thousand Serbs have been sacked from work in various businesses in Kosovo Polje which, before the arrival of KFOR and UNMIK, employed both Serbs and Albanians, while some 2,500 Serbian students no longer attend schools in Kosovo Polje.

Emphasizing that, under Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, KFOR and UNMIK are mandated to establish peace and order, as well as norms of civilized behaviour and that, instead, they are countenancing the destruction of everything that is Serbian, the Serbs write that an unprecedented Albanization takes place in their midst and that the names of schools, streets, neighbourhoods and institutions are being changed. They say that, in the circumstances, they cannot accept the invitation to cooperate and participate in the joint interim administrative structures and that no positive response will be forthcoming as long as chaos, lawlessness and anarchy prevail in Kosovo Polje. They go on to say that, instead of addressing the vital problems of the Serbian people and ensuring its freedom, security, safety and survival, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Head of UNMIK

00-40905 (E) 010500

is leaning over backwards to justify the crimes to the world, explaining them as revenge, revanchism and retribution and invoking — some humanist — the primitive law of "eye for eye, tooth for tooth". The Serbs claim that the internationally organized registration and elections in Kosovo and Metohija are aimed at legalizing the existing situation, i.e., the ethnic cleansing and genocide of the Serbian people under the auspices of the international community. Taking up the request of Ibrahim Rugova, leader of the Democratic League of Kosovo, addressed to the international community to grant independence to that Serbian province, the Serbs write that, pending an historic agreement between the Serbian and Albanian peoples, there will be no future and perspective for the Albanian people either. The Serbs conclude their letter with the statement that the representatives of the international community can earn the confidence of the Serbian people only through a determined implementation of decisions and the creation of genuine conditions for multi-ethnic life and with an appeal that it is high time that the international community addressed the problems of the Serbian people, put an end to its expulsion and created conditions for a substantive return of Serbian expellees. Only then could the international community request the Serbs to participate in the joint interim administrative structures.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

United Nations S/2000/358

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2000
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 27 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that on 16 April 2000, at 7 p.m., an Iraqi boat, registration 557 Basra, was engaged in fishing operations within Iraqi territorial waters in the Khawr Abdullah, near Mina al-Bakr, when it was approached by two Kuwaiti boats, each carrying four men including one first lieutenant, all armed with GC automatic rifles. They forced the Iraqi vessel to stop, threatened its crew members with their weapons, and proceeded to beat them, using clubs and lengths of iron pipe. They then searched the boat, confiscated the fish and threw them into the sea. They also confiscated the boat's fuel, spare gear, fishery identification documents and log, and the crewmen's military service books. The names of the crew members in question are Muslim Jawad Khadir and Muhammad Salman Uthman. After having been detained for three hours, they were released the following day, 17 April 2000.

I request that you intervene with Kuwait to bring a halt to these unjustified acts of provocation and aggression by Kuwaiti patrols, which, as violations of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and security of Iraq.

I also affirm the right of the Republic of Iraq, in accordance with the principle of international liability, to seek compensation for the damage inflicted on it, on its people and on their property by these same acts of aggression.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-40974 (E) 010500 010500

United Nations S/2000/359

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 28 April 2000 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Security Council, I wanted to acknowledge and thank you for your report of 11 April 2000 on the United Nations Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP) (S/2000/305).

The Council remains seized of this issue and continues to support UNMOP in the fulfilment of its mandate as defined in Security Council resolution 1285 (2000) of 13 January 2000.

(*Signed*) Robert R. **Fowler**
President of the Security Council

00-40944 (E) 280400

United Nations S/2000/360

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2000
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 28 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 26 April 2000 from Mr. Mohamed Said al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the continuing policy of the United States of America of placing holds on contracts for spare parts for the oil sector, with consequent further deterioration of that sector, and requesting you to intervene with the United States Government to urge it to desist from a policy that is harmful to the Iraqi people.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-40962 (E) 020500 020500

Annex to the letter dated 28 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Since the adoption on 31 March 2000 of Security Council resolution 1293 (2000), by which the amounts earmarked for the oil sector in Phases VI and VII of the Memorandum of Understanding between Iraq and the Secretariat of the United Nations were increased from $300 million to $600 million, the reality is that that sector has not experienced any change, despite the media halo surrounding the subject, which has led some to conclude that there is a new approach to the issue of contracts between Iraq and foreign companies operating in the oil sector.

In order to shed additional light on this subject, may I direct your attention to some facts pertaining to oil sector applications to the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) (661 Committee) before and after the adoption of resolution 1293 (2000). Before the adoption of that resolution, the total number of oil-sector-related applications had been 564, for a value of approximately $309 million; since its adoption, the total number of such applications was 565 as of 20 April 2000, for a value of approximately $316 million. Furthermore, the number of applications placed on hold in the period following the adoption of resolution 1293 (2000) stood at 29 as of 20 April 2000, for a value of over $14 million. This means that the status of applications relating to the oil sector is still in neutral, if indeed it has not been deliberately shifted into reverse.

It is apparent from the above facts that the hostile approach to Iraq taken by the United States of America in the 661 Committee has not changed, even after the adoption of resolution 1293 (2000), and that the United States intends to keep the situation of Iraq's oil sector as it is. Evidently that country is disregarding the recommendations contained in the report of the petroleum experts who visited Iraq between 16 and 31 January 2000, having been sent by you on a fact-finding field mission regarding the situation in Iraq's oil sector. It would seem that the United States agreed to the above-mentioned resolution, not to upgrade the situation of the oil sector, but only in the interests of propaganda-related media objectives aimed at muffling the growing reactions of other Member States in the Security Council which are calling for some improvement in the humanitarian situation in Iraq, including the upgrading of the oil sector.

The result of keeping the oil sector in its present situation will inevitably be that in the future Iraq will be unable to earn the revenues required to purchase the humanitarian needs specified in the Memorandum of Understanding. Similarly, unless the spare parts and equipment needed by the petroleum industry reach Iraq, the result must be further deterioration of the equipment now in use, and that in turn may lead to environmental catastrophes within the country. God forbid, but if that were to happen, the ensuing environmental damage would not be confined to Iraq alone; it would affect the entire region.

I am bringing these facts to your attention in the hope that you will intervene with the Government of the United States, which is attempting to place various obstacles in the way of oil-sector-related applications and seeking to justify its actions by a variety of fallacious pretexts, to urge it to abandon its policy of hostility towards the people of Iraq. I also hope that you will intervene with the Office of the Iraq Programme to urge it to expedite the submission of applications to the 661 Committee by simplifying the application procedure.

(*Signed*) Mohamed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq

United Nations S/2000/361

Security Council

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28 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 28 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of violations of the terms of ceasefire between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq, committed by the Iraqi side between 16 August 1999 and 25 September 1999 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad Hassan **Fadaifard**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

00-40968 (E) 020500

Annex to the letter dated 28 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Ceasefire violations and incursions

1. On 16 August 1999, Iraqi forces set up an observing post at coordinates 939R TP/TQ 15000-950000 on the map of Nim-Istgah-e-Navad, to the south-west of border pillar 7/9.

2. On 14 August 1999, at 1930 hours, 10 Iraqi soldiers, armed and dressed in civilian clothes, started shooting at the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran at coordinates 38S NC 46000-54000 on the map of southern Naft Shahr. In this engagement, one Iraqi soldier was killed and another captured.

3. On 13 August 1999, at 1025 hours, a mechanical shovel was spotted at coordinates 38S NC 64000-22000 on the map of Coni-Sheikh, digging a canal.

4. On 12 August 1999, at 1500 hours, four Iraqi soldiers, probably intelligence officers, infiltrated the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran and engaged Iranian forces. As a result, two Iraqi soldiers were killed and the other two, who were wounded, fled back into Iraqi territory. The names of the dead Iraqi soldiers are: Heidar Hemayat Hossein and Heidar Amir Mashkori.

5. On 15 August 1999, at 2000 hours, 9 Iraqis (3 men, 4 women and 2 children), who intended to illegally enter the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran at coordinates 39R TP 31900-57000 on the map of Khoramshahr, were arrested. Their names are: 1. Mohammad Abdullah Eidani, 2. Taleb Samad, 3. Bani Abdul Vahab, 4. Zahrah Mohammad, 5. Fatemeh Mohammad, 6. Zeinab Hassan, 7. Fakhri Seyed Ahmad, 8. Yaser Mohammad, 9. Nasser Mohammad.

6. On 21 August 1999, 10 Iraqi soldiers set up an observation post at coordinate 39R TP/TQ 15000-74000 on the map of Khoramshahr.

7. On 16 August 1999, at 2200 hours, and on 17 August 1999, at 0025 hours, Iraqi military forces fired 9 shots, as well as several tracers, at the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran at coordinates 38R QV 50000-70000 on the map of south Hoor-ul-Hoveizeh.

8. On 16 August 1999, Iraqi forces set up an observation post at coordinates 939R TP/TQ 15500-95000 on the map of Nim-Istgah Navad.

9. On 26 August 1999, at 2000 hours, Iraqi forces fired 2 mortar shells into the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They exploded at coordinates 38R QV 58000-58000 on the map of west Jofeir, to the north-east of border pillar 14/A5.

10. On 16 August 1999, at 1138 hours, a white Iraqi patrol boat, powered by a Johnson outboard and carrying 3 individuals, was spotted patrolling the Brim portal area, at coordinates 36600-59700 on the map of Abadan.

11. On 3 September 1999, Iraqi forces established a new base at coordinates 38R QV/QA 56000-52000 on the map of west Jofeir, between 14/A5 and 14/A4 border pillars, and planted the Iraqi flag on top of it.

12. On 31 August 1999, at 0820 hours, 10 Iraqi soldiers were spotted digging stronghold at coordinates 38S NC/ND on the map of Khosravi.

13. On 31 August 1999, at 1200 to 1600 hours, a mechanical shovel was spotted at coordinates 38S NB/PB 97000-65000 on the map of Mehran, digging a canal.

14. On 2 September 1999, at 2330 hours, an Iraqi, armed with a bayonet, was arrested by Iranian forces at coordinates 38S QA 54000-46000 on the map of Yebis, at base No. 3, while attempting to infiltrate the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Other events

1. On 17 August 1999, a number of armed Iraqi soldiers were spotted filming at coordinates 39R TQ 16000-20000 on the map of Hosseinieh. The Iraqis left the area after 10 minutes.

2. On 16 August 1999, 3 Iraqi vehicles carrying 11 individuals were spotted in the vicinity of coordinates 39R TP/TQ 15000-82000 on the map of Navad.

3. On 17 August 1999, a column of Iraqi military vehicles was spotted on the move in the vicinity of coordinates 39R TP 44000-50000 on the map of Abadan.

4. On 15 August 1999, at 0905 hours, an Iraqi loader truck accompanied by 3 Mercedes Benz trucks was spotted excavating at coordinates 39R TP 44000-50000 on the map of Abadan.

5. On 16 August 1999, a new grey Iraqi military boat, equipped with 2 outboard motors and a wave guard, displaying no fishing markings, was spotted following an Islamic Republic of Iran army, crane-equipped barge near its port at coordinates 39R TP 50700-40800 on the map of Khosroabad.

6. On 31 August 1999, an Iraqi mechanical shovel was spotted at coordinates 38S NB/PB 96000-65000 on the map of Mehran, digging a canal.

7. On 25 September 1999, at 0830 hours, a khaki Toyota pickup carrying 5 individuals set out from Garmisheh outpost and entered and remained in coordinates 38S NB/PB — 09000-47000 on the map of southern Mehran.

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Security Council

Distr.: General
29 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 28 April 2000 from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 18 April 2000 (S/2000/334) to me concerning the possibility of creating — in reference to paragraph 17 of Security Council resolution 1291 (2000) of 24 February 2000 — a panel of experts to undertake a preliminary investigation into reports of the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, *inter alia*, in violation of the sovereignty of that country, has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. Members of the Council also note the letter dated 26 April 2000 (S/2000/350) from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to me on this issue. Members of the Council are giving full and active consideration to the creation of such an expert group and intend to take a decision on this matter expeditiously, taking into account, *inter alia*, the conclusions of the Council mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

(*Signed*) Robert R. **Fowler**
President of the Security Council

00-40956 (E) 290400

United Nations S/2000/362*

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 28 April 2000 from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 18 April 2000 (S/2000/334) to me concerning the possibility of creating — in reference to paragraph 17 of Security Council resolution 1291 (2000) of 24 February 2000 — a panel of experts to undertake a preliminary investigation into reports of the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including in violation of the sovereignty of that country, has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. Members of the Council also note the letter dated 26 April 2000 (S/2000/350) from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to me on this issue. Members of the Council are giving full and active consideration to the creation of such an expert group and intend to take a decision on this matter expeditiously, taking into account, *inter alia*, the conclusions of the Council mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

(*Signed*) Robert R. **Fowler**
President of the Security Council

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

00-41172 (E) 010500

United Nations S/2000/363

Security Council

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29 April 2000

Original: English

Report of the Security Council Mission on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)

27 to 29 April 2000

I. Terms of reference of the Mission

1. Concerned about obstacles to the implementation of its resolution 1244 (1999) and at the invitation of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Kosovo, Mr. Bernard Kouchner, the Security Council decided to send a mission there, as conveyed to the Secretary-General by the President of the Council in his letter of 14 April 2000 (S/2000/320). The visit took place from 27 to 29 April 2000.

2. The Mission had the following objectives:

(a) To look for ways to enhance support for the implementation of Council resolution 1244 (1999);

(b) To observe the operations of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and its activities, and to gain a greater understanding of the situation on the ground in order to comprehend better difficult challenges faced by UNMIK;

(c) To convey a strong message to all concerned on the need to reject all violence, ensure public safety and order, promote stability, safety and security, support the full and effective implementation of Council resolution 1244 (1999) and fully cooperate with UNMIK to this end;

(d) To review ongoing implementation of the prohibitions imposed by the Security Council in its resolution 1160 (1998).

II. Composition of the Mission

3. The Mission was composed of the following members:

Ambassador Anwarul K.Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Head of Mission

Ambassador Arnoldo M. Listre (Argentina)

Ambassador Michel Duval (Canada)

Ambassador Shen Guofang (China)

Ambassador M. Patricia Durrant (Jamaica)

Ambassador Hasmy Agam (Malaysia)

Ambassador Sergey V. Lavrov (Russian Federation)

Ambassador Volodymyr Yel'chenko (Ukraine)

III. Activities of the Mission and summary of meetings

4. *Upon arrival on 27 April 2000, the Mission received a comprehensive briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General* as well as briefings by the heads of UNMIK's four key components or "pillars", humanitarian (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)), civil administration (United Nations), institution-building (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)) and economic reconstruction (European Union).

00-41023 (E) 300400

5. The UNMIK leadership described the main priorities of the Mission, along with its major challenges and constraints. The Mission discussed with the Special Representative and his deputies a wide range of issues, including the security situation, the protection of minorities, the return of refugees and displaced persons, civil registration and the preparations for the municipal elections, and economic recovery and property rights. UNMIK also described the challenges of reconciliation, the establishment of the rule of law and issues related to the sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

6. UNMIK is currently concentrating on the development of the interim political framework and on economic revitalization, including strong and sustainable macroeconomic policies for Kosovo. The Special Representative emphasized that the need to strengthen the multi-ethnic interim administration and to clarify the term "substantial autonomy" is being addressed by UNMIK. Future municipal structures, generated by the forthcoming municipal elections, will be integrated into UNMIK's overall administrative structure. In preparing for municipal elections in the fall, the Special Representative intends to launch a campaign aimed at explaining to the local population the nature of these elections, as well as the powers and limitations of elected authorities and their relation to UNMIK. Given the sensitivity of the electoral issues to all ethnic groups, strict and early monitoring of this process will be essential.

7. On the issue of returns, UNMIK emphasized that the return of all internally displaced persons and refugees from third countries is a priority, and should be handled in a measured and humane manner. The current capacity for absorption is extremely limited, and should be expanded through improvement in security, housing and employment. Both UNMIK and KFOR emphasized that uncontrolled and massive returns could actually destabilize the security situation and seriously aggravate inter-ethnic tensions, not least due to competition for scarce housing and other resources. Insofar as minorities are concerned, it is envisaged that further returns will be organized within the framework of the newly established Joint Committee on Returns, which would include representatives of UNMIK, KFOR, UNHCR and minorities and report to the Interim Administrative Council.

8. *On 28 April, the Mission met with representatives of Bosniac, Roma and Turkish communities at Prizren.* Representatives of the ethnic communities expressed their concern about their cultural rights and inadequate representation in the local administration, health, education and other sectors of public life. They complained that their rights as ethnic communities are not sufficiently protected. The Turkish community was particularly disappointed that the cultural rights it received under the 1974 Constitution have not been guaranteed. This includes TV and radio broadcast, education and the use of Turkish as an official language. All these representatives indicated their intention to actively cooperate with other communities. While all the ethnic communities present expressed their intention to participate in the registration and elections, representatives of the Turkish minority emphasized the need for registration forms in their language. As Prizren is the most multi-ethnic city in Kosovo, the Bosniac representatives believe that their community can play a role as a bridge in relations between the Kosovo Albanian and Kosovo Serb communities. The Mission encouraged intensified dialogue among ethnic communities in Kosovo and emphasized the need for reconciliation.

9. *On 28 April, the Mission met with the Kosovo Transitional Council.* Members of the Kosovo Transitional Council reiterated their positions on the major issues of concern for their respective communities. Kosovo Albanian representatives highlighted the issue of missing persons as the major impediment to reconciliation. Some of them urged the Security Council to adopt a resolution demanding the release of all Kosovo Albanian detainees and prisoners in Serbia. They further asserted that uniting the city of Mitrovica is essential to improve security in Kosovo. Most of the Albanian representatives welcomed the Serbs' participation in joint institutions. Serb representatives emphasized the need for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and for the return of all internally displaced persons, and expressed their concern about the lack of security for Serbs in Kosovo. Their other concerns include inadequate freedom of movement for non-Albanians, lack of access to health, education, social services and humanitarian aid. The Mission urged all communities to reject violence, and encouraged peaceful coexistence and cooperation among them.

10. *On the same day, the Mission visited the Kosovo Police School at Vucitrn.* The Mission was briefed on the progress in training of the future members of the Kosovo Police Service (currently 575 field trainees are deployed in all five regions of Kosovo), and was shown the school's extensive refurbished facilities. The Mission learned about the procedures for selection and screening of future local police officers, in which particular emphasis is placed on efforts to recruit from minority communities (currently some 11 per cent of students are non-Albanian) and to include at least 20 per cent female representation in the Kosovo Police Service. It is expected that 4,000 recruits will have completed the initial basic training course and will be deployed to field training with UNMIK Police by 1 July 2001. No ethnic tensions have been encountered within the Kosovo Police School, where classes are taught in both the Serb and Albanian languages, and examples of close interaction and joint work among the trainees were emphasized. Human rights education is an integral part of training.

11. *At Mitrovica*, the Mission was given an overview of the situation by the Regional Administrator, the Police Commissioner and representatives of three components of UNMIK. The Mission visited the Confidence Area and the Employment Rehabilitation Project, and had an opportunity to meet together — for the first time since the clashes in February 2000 — with the leaders of the two major ethnic communities. Both Serb and Albanian community leaders expressed their willingness to cooperate in reducing ethnic tensions and work towards joint solution of the problems at Mitrovica. The leader of the Albanian community at Mitrovica emphasized the need to establish joint health and educational institutions. The head of the Serb National Council at Mitrovica underscored the need for the return of Serb internally displaced persons to all parts of Kosovo. The Mission commended cooperation between the communities' leaders and recognized their courage, urging them to continue working in close collaboration with UNMIK and to encourage both communities to refrain from violence and develop a culture of peace.

12. The situation at Mitrovica remains generally calm in the aftermath of the violence which occurred earlier in the spring. A combination of factors have contributed to this improvement, including a greater concentration of both the civilian and military security presences, local rapid-impact community-based economic initiatives, and efforts made by community leaders on both sides to suppress extremist activities. Leaders of both ethnic communities are again in direct contact with one another, and have expressed the intention to cooperate with the international presences. UNMIK has outlined strategic priorities to steadily improve the security situation of Mitrovica. The provision of basic municipal services, support for two-way returns, rapid-impact employment projects and the revitalization of the industrial base have been identified as key steps in meeting this objective. Efforts are focused on joint confidence-building projects, such as the financing of businesses serving both parts of the city. Despite the efforts of the international presences, violent incidents continue to take place. The latest incidents occurred on the day of the Mission's visit to the city, when a stone was thrown at the bus carrying Serbs returning from church on orthodox Good Friday (on the same day, an orthodox church was blown up at another location in Kosovo) and on the following day, when large demonstrations were organized at Mitrovica.

13. *The Mission met with Bishop Artemje and members of the Serb National Council at Gracanica on 28 April.* During the meeting, representatives of the Serb National Council expressed disappointment at the insufficient implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). They expressed great concern over the current security situation, the absence of freedom of movement and the lack of access to basic services and employment for Serbs in Kosovo. They further stressed the need for the expeditious return of Serb internally displaced persons throughout Kosovo. Representatives of the Serb National Council at Gracanica believed that the international community should strongly support moderate representatives of all ethnic groups, and that community-level administration should receive greater emphasis. This would help to establish a political framework for Serb self-administration without risking the division of Kosovo or changing the borders of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Leaders of the Serb National Council felt that the international community is not applying coherent policies in Kosovo, and complained about the refusal of Kosovo Albanian leaders to conduct an inter-community dialogue. Serb National Council representatives were concerned about the fate of missing non-Albanians, and were in favour of the appointment of a special envoy on missing persons. Despite the encouragement by the Mission, they

insisted that the Serbs will not be in a position to participate in the registration process until adequate security conditions are established and the process of the return of Serb internally displaced persons has begun. The Mission urged the Bishop to continue his leadership efforts for the rejection of violence and the promotion of positive dialogue between the communities in Kosovo.

14. *At the meeting with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Committee for Cooperation with UNMIK*, at which the Special Representative was present, the Mission discussed relations between UNMIK and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia authorities. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia representative expressed disappointment that the Mission had not visited Belgrade, and maintained the official position of the Yugoslav Government on all issues related to the international presence in Kosovo. He was particularly dissatisfied with the lack of progress in implementing Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), and expressed concern that some of UNMIK's and KFOR's actions could undermine the sovereignty of the FRY. At the same time, he welcomed UNMIK's proposal to establish a Joint Committee. The Mission assured the Committee of the Security Council's determination to fully implement its resolution 1244 (1999). The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Committee for Cooperation presented to the mission a list of missing persons in Kosovo.

15. *At KFOR headquarters, the Mission was briefed by the new KFOR Commander, General Ortuño*, on the security situation and main tasks and challenges of the international security presence. The Mission discussed issues related to cooperation between KFOR and UNMIK, the establishment of the Kosovo Protection Corps and implementation of the Military Technical Agreement. The Chairperson of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1160 (1998) discussed with KFOR the strengthening of the monitoring of the implementation of the arms embargo, given KFOR's responsibility for conducting border monitoring duties, in accordance with paragraph 9 (g) of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). General Ortuño briefed the members of the Mission on KFOR's activities in support of Security Council resolution 1160 (1998). According to KFOR, incidents involving the seizure of arms and ammunition at the borders of Kosovo are currently limited since most of the weaponry seized are already in Kosovo, while KFOR continues to be actively engaged in their recovery inside Kosovo. He mentioned that he is sending monthly reports containing detailed information on KFOR's activities regarding the implementation of Security Council resolution 1160 (1998) to the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The Mission feels that this detailed information should be made available to the Security Council.

16. *On 29 April, the Mission visited the Gnjilane region* and observed the launching of the registration process in the UNMIK-OCSE centre at Dobrecani. It also visited the orthodox church of Saint Nicolas and met with representatives of the church and the Serb community, who emphasized the need for freedom of movement to the location and sought the Mission's assistance in ensuring security and freedom of movement. They noted that progress in Serb returns would help to encourage Serbs to take part in registration.

17. *At the meeting with UNMIK Police Commissioner*, the Mission discussed the law and order situation in Kosovo. The Commissioner emphasized the fundamental differences inherent in the UNMIK police mission from all previous United Nations international policing missions. The UNMIK mission faces the unprecedented dual challenge of simultaneously running operations of UNMIK police while building a new local police service from the ground up. While UNMIK was criticized early on for slowness in establishing a civilian security presence, progress has in fact been remarkable under the circumstances. Major crime rates have fallen dramatically since the beginning of the UNMIK and KFOR operations, though the reduction in ethnically targeted crime could probably also be partly explained by the reduced presence of non-Albanian populations. The overall police strength remains well below its authorized level, which is itself below UNMIK's own assessments of the minimum effective level to fulfil the main strategic objectives of its mandate. Significant impediments have also been presented by the slow provision of basic equipment and resources necessary to carry out executive policing functions. As regards the UNMIK police requirements, the Mission took note of the Police Commissioner's request for additional resources in the forensics field and for the intelligence collection and analysis unit, as well as for officers and equipment for a close protection unit.

18. In spite of these severe staffing and resource impediments, UNMIK Police has significantly enhanced its effectiveness, in part by developing joint security operations with KFOR. The level of cooperation and coordination between UNMIK Police and KFOR is extremely high. Reducing demands on UNMIK for non-police security tasks as well as improving the function of the judiciary and penal systems in Kosovo will be crucial to enhance law and order effectiveness. For the Kosovo Police Service, UNMIK Police and the Kosovo Police School have set high standards, and are investing extensive resources into the training of the new service. UNMIK Police continue efforts to draw on the pool of former Kosovo police officers in developing the Kosovo Police Service, but their association with a strongly repressive prior policing system means that this is also a delicate process. The Commissioner appealed strongly to the Mission to assist UNMIK in meeting urgent personnel and equipment requirements.

19. *The Mission was also briefed by the co-heads of the Administrative Department of Justice, the head of the Correctional System and the head of the International Support Section dealing with the establishment of the Kosovo War and Ethnic War Crimes Court.* The Mission was informed of the severe shortage of resources in these areas and of the need to provide financial and other assistance in order to ensure the effective functioning of the rule of law in Kosovo.

20. *The Mission also met with the heads of departments of the Joint Interim Administrative Structures*, namely the Departments of Health and Social Welfare, Sports, Agriculture, Democratic Governance and Civil Society Support and the Central Fiscal Authority. It received a briefing on the workings of the Departments as well a list of their priorities. It was informed that recruitment for all Departments is based on technical competence and a fai representation of minorities and women.

21. *At Djakovica, on 29 April, the Mission visited the destroyed part of the old town.* It also observed the exhumation of corpses and their identification at the Brekoc cemetery by the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. The Mission was informed by the Tribunal's forensic experts that they are hampered in their work by the lack of resources to finance DNA tests. The Mission also met with families of the missing and detained people. A strong and emotional appeal was made by the families for the international community to exert pressure on the Yugoslav Government to clarify the fate of missing persons. In addition, the Security Council was urged to adopt a resolution demanding the immediate release of all detainees held in Serbian prisons and detention centres. It was also requested to ensure that all trials of ethnic Albanians in Serbia are monitored by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as other relevant international organizations. The need to urgently appoint a special envoy to deal exclusively with missing and detained persons was also emphasized to the Mission. The Mission was also provided with a list of missing persons and detainees from Djakovica, along with an appeal from parents and citizens of Djakovica.

22. At the end of the visit, the Head of the Mission and the Special Representative held a joint press conference at Pristina during which the Head of the Mission provided a general overview of activities of the Mission and responded to questions.

IV. Findings of the Mission

23. Since its deployment on 13 June 1999, UNMIK has made significant progress in implementing Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). The full and effective implementation of the Security Council's mandate requires sustained effort by UNMIK and KFOR and the full participation of local communities, which in turn demand active engagement of and support by the international community. All ethnic communities expressed a desire to live in peace together, but due to the recent violent conflict they are still deeply divided and the healing will require a long time. Despite a steady improvement in the overall level of violence and criminality, attacks against minorities continue and special measures of protection must constantly be maintained. KFOR's continued assistance in protecting minorities and joint security operations with UNMIK police thus remain vital.

24. Inadequate physical, social and economic security remains a major concern. Lack of freedom of movement, access to education, health care, social services and employment hampers the return of internally displaced persons, primarily Serbs and the Roma, and significantly impedes the integration of ethnic minorities into public life. Regarding

possibilities for reconciliation, there have been some positive signs, such as the general apology issued by the Serb community of Orahovac and the subsequent declaration from the Kosovo Albanian community at Orahovac inviting Serbs to stay and to cooperate in the future development of the community.

25. Progress towards peaceful coexistence remains fragile. The painful issues of all missing persons and detainees, continuing violence, and the return of internally displaced persons and refugees continue to be major impediments to reconciliation and undermine the efforts to create a climate of tolerance and security. The Mission noted the strong support of the different ethnic communities for the appointment of a special envoy for detainees and missing persons. Given its urgency, the Mission undertook to report that support to the Council.

26. The lack of an effective and unbiased rule of law in Kosovo was a recurring theme at many of the Mission's meetings. The Mission notes that UNMIK's intention to recruit international judges and prosecutors and their staff to work alongside their local counterparts will be critical to redress the perceived culture of impunity which currently undermines the judicial system. If UNMIK is to increase the effectiveness of the Kosovo judiciary, substantial voluntary assistance, both in personnel and material resources, is required. As regards the lack of sufficient policing resources, it is imperative for UNMIK to continue accelerating its training programmes for the Kosovo Police Service. The multi-ethnic and gender-sensitive Kosovo Police Service development programme and the OSCE-led Kosovo Police School should serve as models for future institutions in Kosovo. The Mission was appreciative of the fact that human rights education and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) awareness are part of UNMIK's police curriculum.

27. While noting the serious staffing constraints faced by UNMIK in civil administration and police, the Mission recognizes the significant imbalance in wages between its locally recruited civil service staff and the rest of the Kosovo population (a similar situation exists in United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor operations). It feels that both issues should be pursued through the appropriate General Assembly process.

28. To ensure an organized, expeditious and sustainable return, significant resources will be required in order to create appropriate conditions for the returnees by increasing Kosovo's absorbing capacity.

29. The recent participation of the Serbs as observers in the Joint Interim Administrative Structures, including the Kosovo Transitional Council and the Interim Administrative Council, is encouraging and hopefully will lead to their full participation and a larger representation of non-Albanians in the Structures. Bosniac and Roma representatives, however, have yet to join the Transitional Council. At the same time, the Mission noted that a major effort by the international presences and long-term nurturing will be necessary to achieve progress in reconciliation. Nonetheless, the Mission noted several examples of more positive relations between communities at the local level. Discussions at this level are less politically charged and focus on practical modes of cooperation. Efforts to promote cooperation and interface between ethnic communities at the local level, including the establishment of multi-ethnic municipal councils, administrative boards and rapid-impact employment projects, could foster peaceful coexistence.

30. The civil and voter registration processes in Kosovo, in view of the forthcoming municipal elections, have just begun. It is unfortunate, however, that all factions of the Kosovo Serb community have chosen not to participate in this process, due to the current lack of physical security and freedom of movement. Substantial efforts by UNMIK and KFOR, backed up by the strong support of the international community, are essential to encourage and create the conditions for Serb participation, including those who are displaced outside Kosovo.

31. The Mission welcomes the renewal of contacts between leaders of both communities in Mitrovica, and believes that joint community-based programmes, which it had an opportunity to observe while there, have a potential for confidence-building and reconciliation.

32. The Mission notes UNMIK's intention to continue working to establish a Joint Committee, which is aimed at enhancing productive dialogue with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia authorities. KFOR is continuing to maintain regular contact with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia authorities on military issues

within the framework of the Joint Implementation Committee.

33. The Mission is cognizant of the imperative for UNMIK to foster economic recovery as a means of underpinning confidence-building and reconciliation efforts at the local level. The Mission welcomes the deployment of economic reconstruction representatives of the European Union at the municipal level. It further supports UNMIK's view that economic investment priorities must be guided by UNMIK to ensure maximum effectiveness of donated funds. Property issues, however, remain unresolved, and could potentially undermine international efforts aimed at the economic recovery of Kosovo and even peace initiatives by UNMIK.

34. The Mission feels that detailed information on KFOR's activities in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1160 (1998) should be provided to the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1160 (1998).

35. It was emphasized to the Mission that UNMIK has only been deployed for some 10 months, and that as a result there should be realistic expectations of what it could achieve in that limited period. Healing the wounds inflicted by the conflict will take time. Reconciliation is a long and protracted process, and the international community must be patient and persistent. UNMIK and KFOR have made significant progress in implementing their mandates and must be commended for their efforts, often made under difficult and challenging circumstances. The Mission notes the enormity of the task faced by UNMIK, and commends in particular its efforts in the capacity and institution-building areas. Further efforts to ensure full implementation of its resolution 1244 (1999) remain a high priority of the Security Council.

36. The Mission wishes to pay a well-deserved tribute to Mr. Kouchner for his outstanding leadership of UNMIK and his commitment to the success of the Security Council objectives in Kosovo. The Mission also expresses appreciation to General Ortuño, Commander of KFOR, for his determined efforts and commitment. The hard work and dedication of their collaborators and the entire staff of UNMIK and KFOR, have earned the praise of the Mission. The Mission is deeply appreciative of all the support provided by UNMIK and KFOR which was crucial to its success.

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General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session
Items 27, 30, 50, 74 and 75 of the preliminary list*

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, including measures and recommendations agreed upon at its mid-term review

Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

General and complete disarmament

Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 25 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the chairman's summary report on the International Symposium on the Roles of Subregional and Non-Governmental Organizations in Conflict Prevention and Peace Initiatives in Sub-Saharan Africa (see annex), which was held on 28 and 29 March 2000 in Tokyo under the joint sponsorship of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Institute for International Policy Studies.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under items 27, 30, 50, 74 and 75 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yukio **Satoh**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

* A/55/50

00-41214 (E) 170500

Annex to the letter dated 25 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

International Symposium on the Roles of Subregional and Non-Governmental Organizations in Conflict Prevention and Peace Initiatives in Sub-Saharan Africa (Tokyo, 28 and 29 March 2000)

Chairman's summary report

The International Symposium on the Roles of Subregional and Non-Governmental Organizations in Conflict Prevention and Peace Initiatives in Sub-Saharan Africa was held on 28 and 29 March 2000 in Tokyo. This symposium was co-sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Institute for International Policy Studies, and supported by the Asahi Shimbun. The following document is the chairman's summary report of views exchanged during the symposium between the participating panellists.

1. Current awareness (conflicts in Africa recognized as matters of serious international concern)

1. Conflicts in Africa stem from a complex intermingling of causal factors. Those causes are represented, for example, by the arbitrary demarcation of borders, poverty, conflicts among different ethnic groups (and difficulties in coexistence), lack of good governance, and disputes over the concession of scarce natural resources. It is not an overstatement to say that the situation in Africa is being further aggravated. Such a serious situation in Africa is characterized by a vicious cycle in which a ceasefire between conflicting parties leads repeatedly to the recurrence of conflict, as well as the outbreak of new conflicts. This is a matter of serious concern and urgency for the international community. There has also been concern expressed by participants from Africa that Africa may further lag behind the rest of the world unless appropriate action is taken.

2. In recent years, regional organizations, subregional organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have been playing increasingly significant roles in conflict prevention and resolution, besides some important roles played by individual States and the United Nations.

3. With respect to the recent approach to conflict prevention and resolution, concepts such as the creation of a culture of peace have increasingly gained importance as the basis of thought. There is a recognition of the increasing importance of the "comprehensive approach" as a concrete response to conflict, in which various actors cooperate in different phases of conflict, utilizing a variety of measures (including not simply diplomatic measures, but economic assistance, security arrangements, humanitarian relief activities, assistance to democratization, and so on).

2. Need for cooperation and collaboration among a variety of actors

1. Effective conflict prevention and resolution can be pursued through active cooperation and collaboration among a variety of actors such as the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), subregional organizations, NGOs, and donors. In other words, conflict prevention and resolution can be expressed as the collaborative and cooperative efforts by all actors concerned. Conflict prevention and resolution would be more effective and efficient when these actors work in closer cooperation in a manner in which respective actors complement each other. For this purpose, participants shared the view that a kind of standard of conduct for respective actors should be clarified and their actions should comply with international law, especially with the Charter of the United Nations. A consensus was reached that the United Nations, specifically the Security Council, should play a central role in conflict prevention and resolution. Participants raised the point, however, that further discussion would be required to determine who would play the role of coordinator in charge of assigning respective roles for actors and how such an assignment would be carried out. Participants noted that the coordinator responsible for assigning roles may differ in accordance with various conflict situations.

2. Sharing the view that research institutes can make their intellectual contributions to conflict prevention and resolution, it was acknowledged among participants that there is a need for the publication of research findings, exchange between subregional

organizations and research institutes, promotion of networking among those institutes, and confirmation of the necessity of support given to institutes by the international community.

3. The necessity of the increased participation by women in conflict prevention and resolution was emphasized.

3. Efforts made by subregional organizations to enhance their capacities and concrete measures for improvements

1. It was the evaluation of the participants that subregional organizations have already committed themselves to playing active roles in conflict prevention and resolution, and that they have already made certain achievements in this area.

2. On the basis of their evaluation that subregional organizations are currently building legal and institutional arrangements to increase their conflict prevention and resolution capacities, participants reached the consensus that further efforts should be made; specifically, arrangements relevant to effective communication which would lead to mutual trust among member States, adjustments to their respective interests, the decision-making process of the organizations, and their methods of engagement, among others.

3. Participants acknowledged that subregional organizations should pay attention to constructing their own early warning systems, and also that the United Nations, OAU and subregional organizations should make concerted efforts to build an integrated and functional three-tier early warning system. Recalling some delayed responses by the international community in dealing with African conflicts in the 1990s, participants, being aware of the need for early response and action, emphasized the importance of efforts in bridging the time lag between early warning and early response.

4. Participants expressed support for the efforts by subregional organizations to tackle security problems such as the proliferation of small arms, trafficking in illegal goods, and environmental problems through regional programmes.

5. Participants shared the view that subregional organizations can play a significant role in the post-conflict stage, such as monitoring a ceasefire, or disarmament, demobilization and reintegration. There was agreement among participants that the accumulation and dispersal of small arms, which is one of the most significant causes of the expansion and prolonging of regional conflicts, be addressed with some urgency. A consensus was reached that the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) declaration of a moratorium on light weapons should be appreciated as a significant step, and similar practices should be urgently introduced in other African regions.

6. Additionally, a consensus was reached that further discussion is welcomed on the issue whether regional or subregional organizations would be placed at the focal point, where appropriate, as the main recipient of international assistance. In relation to this, the leading role of OAU was recognized, as well as the need to support efforts to enable OAU to work in tandem with subregional organizations.

7. While each subregional organization is surrounded by different circumstances, there are many commonalities that subregional organizations share. Assuming that the exchange of past experiences between subregional organizations would be mutually beneficial, the promotion of such mutual exchange and other cooperative activities should also be given consideration.

4. Roles and functions of non-governmental organizations and need for further participation

1. There is great potential for NGOs to play important roles in conflict prevention and resolution in Africa where most conflicts are intra-State by nature, as well as in post-conflict peace-building. Participants recognized the growing expectation by the international community of the roles of NGOs. Under such circumstances, where principles of non-interference in internal affairs and territorial integrity based on national sovereignty might obstruct the international community from engaging in conflict prevention and resolution, significant functions of NGOs were widely recognized among participants, and can be outlined as follows. First, NGOs can shape international opinion by notifying the international community about problematic policies or actions practised by conflicting parties. Second, NGOs have the potential for early warning because of their close contact with local populations through their various

activities at the grass-roots level. Third, NGOs can gain access to almost all parties concerned, including not only Governments but even anti-government forces. Fourth, NGOs in their capacity as a neutral and impartial third party have great potential in promoting mutual understanding and reconciliation between conflicting parties.

2. Based on the functions outlined above, concrete roles for NGOs in conflict prevention and resolution can be identified as follows; these roles may be expressed as an outreach function supplementing "track one" processes which are pursued by official organs such as international organizations and/or individual Governments:

(a) Disseminating early warning signals;

(b) Practising mediation and conciliation;

(c) Forming international opinion;

(d) Conducting humanitarian relief activities;

(e) Dealing with some post-conflict activities relating to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (disarmament of small arms and anti-personnel mines, demobilization, and the reintegration of former combatants into civilian life);

(f) Increasing mutual understanding between conflicting parties;

(g) Assisting democratization (for example, the monitoring of elections).

3. Participants shared the view that NGOs can contribute, with the capacity of early warning, to the early warning systems already constructed or in the process of construction by the United Nations, OAU and subregional organizations.

4. Moreover, it was agreed among participants that in order to adequately cope with problems such as the duplication of activities and feelings of rivalry among respective NGOs, certain measures including networking among NGOs and/or some type of a code of conduct for NGOs should be considered.

5. Additionally, agreement was reached among participants on the need to ensure the safety of NGO staff operating in both conflict areas and neighbouring areas. A consensus was further reached that a code of conduct should be elaborated for NGOs to be applied when making contact with armed militias or withdrawing from conflict areas in crisis situations.

6. It was also pointed out that there is a strategic advantage in some common funding appeals by NGOs, regional organizations and subregional organizations for their capacity-building in conflict prevention and resolution.

5. Request to the Japanese Government

1. Deep appreciation was expressed by participants invited to this symposium which was co-sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Institute for International Policy Studies, and also an expectation was expressed that this kind of symposium would be held again in the years to come.

2. Participants further expressed their expectation that the Japanese Government, which is hosting the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit this coming summer, will become more involved with conflict prevention and resolution in Africa.

United Nations S/2000/365

Security Council

Distr.: General
1 May 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 28 April 2000 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for the attention of the members of the Council, a report of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait pursuant to paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines to facilitate full international implementation of paragraphs 24, 25 and 27 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991).

The report was approved by the Committee on 28 April 2000.

(*Signed*) A. Peter van **Walsum**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990)
concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait

00-41149 (E) 010500

Annex

Report of the Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait pursuant to paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines to facilitate full international implementation of paragraphs 24, 25 and 27 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991)

1. The present report is submitted by the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, in accordance with paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines to facilitate full international implementation of paragraphs 24, 25 and 27 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991 approved by Security Council resolution 700 (1991) of 17 June 1991 (S/22660, annex).

2. Under paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines, the Committee is required to report at 90-day intervals to the Security Council on the implementation of the arms and related sanctions against Iraq contained in the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. The present report is the thirty-sixth of its kind submitted under the above-mentioned guidelines.

3. By paragraph 12 of the guidelines, all States are requested to report to the Committee any information that may have come to their attention relating to possible violations of the arms and related sanctions against Iraq committed by other States or foreign nationals. During the period under review, no such information as requested has been brought to the attention of the Committee.

4. By paragraphs 13 and 15 of the guidelines, all States and international organizations are required to consult the Committee on the question of whether certain items fall within the provisions of paragraph 24 of resolution 687 (1991), as well as in cases relating to dual-use or multiple-use items, that is, items meant for civilian use but with potential for diversion or conversion to military use. During the same period, the Committee has not been consulted by any States or international organizations on these questions.

5. By paragraph 14 of the guidelines, international organizations are requested to take all appropriate steps to assist in ensuring full compliance with the arms and related sanctions against Iraq, including providing to the Committee any information of this kind that may come to their attention. During the period under review, no information as requested by paragraph 14 of the guidelines has been brought to the attention of the Committee.

6. The Committee will continue its efforts to fulfil the mandate entrusted to it by the Security Council.

United Nations S/2000/366

Security Council

Distr.: General
1 May 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 26 April 2000 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to my letter of 3 December 1999 to the Council (S/1999/1235), in which I proposed the establishment of a United Nations Peace-Building Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) as a successor to the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (MINURCA), to be headed by a representative of the Secretary-General. The President of the Council informed me on 10 December 1999 (S/1999/1236) that the members of the Council had taken note with appreciation of the proposals contained in my letter.

BONUCA was established on 15 February 2000 and has since been operational under the direction of an officer-in-charge. Following consultations with the Central African Government, it is my intention to appoint Mr. Cheikh Tidiane Sy (Senegal), currently my Representative in Burundi, as my Representative in the Central African Republic and head of BONUCA. Mr. Sy is expected to take up his new functions in late May.

I should be grateful if you could bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

00-41161 (E) 010500

United Nations S/2000/367

Security Council

Distr.: General
1 May 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 1 May 2000 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 26 April 2000 (S/2000/366) concerning your intention to appoint Mr. Cheikh Tidiane Sy (Senegal) as your Representative in the Central African Republic and head of the United Nations Peace-Building Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention contained in your letter.

(*Signed*) **Wang** Yingfan
President of the Security Council

00-41155 (E) 010500

United Nations S/2000/368

Security Council

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1 May 2000
English
Original: French

Letter dated 27 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and with reference to the letter which the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to you on 14 March 2000 (S/2000/217), in which he claimed that a number of Iraqi fishing launches had been intercepted in Iraqi territorial waters, I have the honour to inform you that the assertions contained in that letter are part of the series of unfounded allegations and untruths that are typical of Iraq. The truth is that during a routine operation of surveillance and protection of Kuwait's territorial waters on its northern maritime boundary, one of our patrols noticed that vessels flying the Iraqi flag were engaged in fishing inside the territorial waters of Kuwait and, without recourse to any act of intimidation or violence against the fishermen, ordered them to leave the area. Moreover, contrary to the claim made by the representative of Iraq, neither the documents of the vessels in question nor the identity papers of their crew members were confiscated.

The competent authorities of Kuwait categorically deny these false allegations which seek to give a misleading impression of the situation and come under the usual policy of Iraq which is aimed at creating tensions and provoking crises in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. **Abulhasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-41184 (E) 010500 020500

United Nations A/54/853–S/2000/369

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 31
Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Identical letters dated 1 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward to you the final communiqué issued at the end of the Summit held by the Organization of African Unity on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in Algiers on 30 April 2000.

I should be grateful if you would have it circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdallah **Baali**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 1 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: English and French]

Summit on the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Algiers, 30 April 2000

Communiqué

1. At the Invitation of His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria, Current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, a Summit on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was held in Algiers on 30 April 2000.

2. In attendance were the following:

- His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria, Current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity;
- His Excellency Mr. Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique;
- His Excellency Mr. Alpha Oumar Konaré, President of the Republic of Mali;
- His Excellency Mr. Laurent Désiré Kabila, President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
- His Excellency Mr. Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa;
- His Excellency Mr. Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- His Excellency Mr. Eric Silwanba, Personal Representative of His Excellency Mr. Frederick T. Chiluba, President of the Republic of Zambia;
- His Excellency Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity;
- His Excellency Mr. Quett Ketumile Joni Masire, Facilitator of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue;
- His Excellency Mr. M. Kamel Morjane, Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

3. The meeting, devoted to the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, made a comprehensive assessment of the implementation of the Lusaka Agreement, in the light of the latest developments resulting from the implementation of the peace process.

4. The Heads of State paid tribute to His Excellency Mr. Frederick Titus Chiluba, President of the Republic of Zambia, for the constant and commendable efforts he has been deploying to find a peaceful solution to the crisis in the Democratic

Republic of the Congo and for his active role in the signing of the Lusaka Peace Agreement, on 10 July 1999.

5. The Heads of State reaffirmed the importance and validity of the Lusaka Agreement, which constitutes an Irreplaceable framework for the resolution of the conflict. They called upon the parties to scrupulously honour their commitment so as to consolidate the ceasefire and the progress made so far and to give a further thrust to the peace dynamic.

6. The Heads of State expressed satisfaction at the adoption of resolution 1291 (2000) by the United Nations Security Council that extended the MONUC mandate and authorized the deployment of a force to observe compliance with the ceasefire in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

7. They also called upon the parties concerned to respect the Ceasefire Agreement and expressed their support for the disengagement plan adopted by the Political Committee, at its fifth session, held in Kampala from 6 to 8 April 2000.

8. The Heads of State expressed their satisfaction at the progress made and urged the parties to continue to fully and actively cooperate in the implementation of the peace process, on the basis of respect for the territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the legitimate security concerns of the neighbouring countries.

9. The Heads of State underscored the importance of the inter-Congolese dialogue and stressed the need to speed up its preparations and ensure the conditions for its success according to the relevant provisions of the Lusaka Agreement. They encouraged His Excellency Mr. Quett Ketumile Joni Masire to pursue his mission of facilitating the inter-Congolese dialogue and urgently appealed to the parties to fully cooperate with the ongoing efforts to organize and convene the said dialogue.

10. The Heads of State reiterated their appeal to the international community and particularly to the Security Council for their genuine and effective involvement and a concrete and substantial contribution to the peace process, through the mobilization of the necessary assistance for a speedy and full implementation of resolution 1291 (2000). The Heads of State urged the Security Council to speedily implement phase II of the deployment of United Nations forces, so as to consolidate the progress made so far.

11. They appealed to the States members of the Organization of African Unity to maintain and strengthen their support for the peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and requested them to contribute to its successful conclusion. They welcomed the offer made by the Republic of South Africa and the Federal Republic of Nigeria to place troops at the disposal of the United Nations force in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

12. The Heads of State expressed satisfaction at the encouraging results of this Summit which constituted an additional step in the collective and continuous efforts of Africa to resolve the crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in the Great Lakes region.

13. Finally, the Heads of State expressed their heartfelt and deep gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria, current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, who had taken the initiative to convene the Summit. They also expressed their grateful thanks to the Government and people of Algeria for the warm welcome and generous and fraternal hospitality accorded to them.

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Security Council

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General Assembly
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Agenda item 63
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 27 April 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to our letter dated 8 March 2000, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 7 to 10, 21 to 23 and 27 March and 4 to 6, 9, 10, 12, 14, 17, 18 and 25 April 2000.

On 7 March, nine (9) Turkish military aircraft (6 F-16, 2 CN-235, 1 Gulf Stream) entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations. The CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Karpasia, before landing at 9:01 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The Gulf Stream aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Karpasia, before landing at 16:09 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The said aircraft departed the airport on 8 March at 8:23 hours.

On 8 March, 2 C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. Early on the afternoon of the same day the two aircraft once more violated international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the flight information region of Ankara.

On 9 March, one Gulf Stream Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at 9:30 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The Gulf Stream aircraft departed the airport, at 12:44 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

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On 10 March, one Gulf Stream Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at 11:32 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The Gulf Stream aircraft departed the airport, at 15:23 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

On 21 March, one KC-135 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction.

On 22 March, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction.

On 23 March, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. Early on the afternoon of the same day, the same aircraft once more violated international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the flight information region of Ankara.

On 27 March, one F-4 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting towards the flight information region of Ankara.

On 4 April, one KC-135 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction.

On 5 and 6 April, one C-160 and one KC-135 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations. The C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The KC-135 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

On 6 April, four F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations.

On 9 April, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at 10:32 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The said aircraft departed the airport, at 11:54 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

On 10 April, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the

national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at 7:27 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The said aircraft departed the airport, at 14:25 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

On 12 April, eight F-16 and two F-4 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Morphou-Karpasia-Kyrenia.

On 14 April, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations.

On 17 April, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at 11:26 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The said aircraft departed the airport, at 12:08 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

On 18 April, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. Early that afternoon of the same day the same aircraft once more violated international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the flight information region of Ankara.

On 25 April, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the flight information region of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at 8:24 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The said aircraft departed the airport, at 10:40 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

While strongly protesting these actions which violate international law as well as the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and calling for their cessation, I would like, once more, to express the hope that the necessary positive attitude will be shown by Turkey so that the efforts for finding a just and viable solution of the Cyprus problem, on the basis of United Nations resolutions, will not be adversely affected.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Agis **Loizou**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.